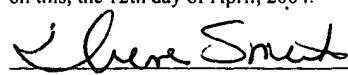


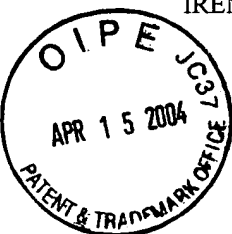
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Customer Number

24024


IRENE SMITH



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)	
Nordstrom, et al.)	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
)	
Serial No.: 10/605,266)	Art Unit: 3753
)	
Filed: August 18, 2002)	Confirmation No.: 2265
)	
For: MODULAR SURFACE)	Attorney Docket No.: 22188/06640
MOUNT MANIFOLD)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

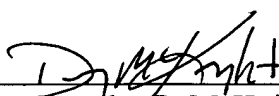
Transmitted herewith are the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form PTO/SB/08A with (12) References; and
3. Return Receipt Postcard.

It is believed that no further fee is required relating to the filing of these documents. If this is not the case, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0172. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

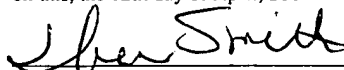
Date: 4/12/04

By: 
Douglas B. McKnight (50,447)
216/622-8559



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Filed: August 18, 2003)	Confirmation No: 2265
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MOUNT MANIFOLD)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I. Preliminary Statement

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)), or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

II. Identification of Time of Filing the Accompanying Information Disclosure Statement

- ☒ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). As such it is believed that there is no fee due.

- ☐ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.
- ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is submitted as a courtesy copy for the Examiner and includes the previously submitted Form 1449s from the parent case of which this is a continuation application.

III. Non-English References

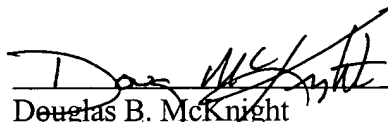
- ☐ Submitted herewith is an English translation of the following foreign language patents, publications or information or of those portions of those patents, publications or information considered to be material: _____.
- ☐ No English translations of the foreign language patents, publications or information or parts thereof are readily available, except for those listed above.
- ☐ The following foreign language documents submitted are believed to be the equivalent or substantial equivalent of the English language documents identified below, which are also submitted herewith.
- ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items. (Attached)

IV. Fee

- ☐ Petition fee due (§1.17(p)): \$180.00
- ☐ Attached is a check in the amount of \$180.00.
- ☐ Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. **03-0172**.
- ☒ Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **03-0172**. A duplicate of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/12/84



Douglas B. McKnight
Reg. No. 50,447
Telephone: 216/622-8200
Customer No.: 24024



PTO/SB/08A (02-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/605,266
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Douglas Nordstrom
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	22188-06640

Sheet 1 of 4

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 2,283,126	05-12-1942	Ray	
		US- 2,879,788	03-31-1959	Beckett, et al.	
		US- 3,523,600	08-11-1970	Nelson	
		US- 3,589,387	06-29-1971	Raymond	
		US- 3,806,088	04-23-1974	Stoneman, et al.	
		US- 3,915,194	10-28-1975	Friedrich	
		US- 4,270,559	06-02-1981	Wallberg	
		US- 4,601,087	07-22-1986	Kawai, et al.	
		US- 4,934,411	06-19-1990	Albrecht	
		US- 5,769,110	06-23-1998	Ohmi, et al.	
		US- 3,572,368	03-23-1971	Bullmer	
		US- 3,863,666	02-04-1975	Bonne, at al.	
		US- 4,657,047	04-14-1987	Kolibas	
		US- 4,848,393	07-18-1989	West	
		US- 5,178,191	01-12-1993	Schaefer	
		US- 5,301,717	04-12-1994	Goedecke	
		US- 5,439,026	08-08-1995	Moriya, et al.	
		US- 5,662,143	09-02-1997	Caughran	
		US- 4,640,311	02-03-1987	Martinet, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP-0715112-A3	05-21-1997	A. und K. MÜLLER GmbH		
		DE-2630050-A1	01-12-1978	Paley, Hyman W.		
		EP-0754896-A2	01-22-1997	FUJIKIN INCORPORATEE		
		EP-0637712-A1	02-08-1995	VYGON		
		WO-9945302-A1	09-10-1999	THE SWAGelok COMPA		
		EP-0908929-A2	04-14-1999	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/605,266
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Douglas Nordstrom
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	22188-06640

Sheet **2** of **4****U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,741,354	05-03-1988	DeMild, Jr.	
		US- 4,938,251	07-03-1990	Furrow, et al.	
		US- 5,106,169	04-21-1992	Barefoot	
		US- 4,230,143	10-28-1980	Dettmann, et al.	
		US- 5,709,247	01-20-1998	Hutton	
		US- 5,720,317	02-24-1998	Nimberger	
		US- 5,435,349	07-25-1995	Borbone	
		US- 5,567,868	10-22-1996	Craig, et al.	
		US- 5,660,201	08-26-1997	Turner	
		US- 5,680,883	10-28-1997	Gluf, Jr.	
		US- 4,415,004	11-15-1983	Bouteille, et al.	
		US- 5,368,062	11-29-1994	Okumura, et al.	
		US- 5,020,570	06-04-1991	Cotter	
		US- 5,605,179	02-25-1997	Strong, Jr., et al.	
		US- 4,082,324	04-04-1978	Obrecht	
		US- 4,458,841	07-10-1984	Laakaniemi, et al.	
		US- 4,483,365	11-20-1984	Fallon	
		US- 5,040,714	08-20-1991	McManigal	
		US- 5,178,651	01-12-1993	Balma, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP-0877170-A1	11-11-1998	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		
		EP-0844424-A2	05-27-1998	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		
		EP-0845623-A1	06-03-1998	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		
		EP-0905383-A1	03-31-1999	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		
		EP-0837278-A1	04-22-1998	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		
		EP-0859155-A2	08-19-1998	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		

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SignatureDate
Considered

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
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Application Number	10/605,266
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Douglas Nordstrom
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	22188-06640

Sheet **3** of **4****U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,039,360	03-21-2000	Ohmi, et al.	
		US- 5,836,355	11-17-1998	Markulec, et al.	
		US- 5,730,448	03-24-1998	Swensen, et al.	
		US- 5,713,582	02-03-1998	Swensen, et al.	
		US- 5,735,532	04-07-1998	Nolan, et al.	
		US- 5,735,533	04-07-1998	Nolan, et al.	
		US- 6,085,783	07-11-2000	Hollingshead	
		US- 5,361,805	11-08-1994	Mayeux	
		US- 5,529,088	06-25-1996	Asou	
		US- 4,807,660	02-28-1989	Aslanian	
		US- 5,983,933	11-16-1999	Ohmi, et al.	
		US- 5,488,925	02-06-1996	Kumada	
		US- 6546961	04-15-2003	Fukushima	
		US- 6283155	09-04-2001	Vu	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP-0816731-A2	01-07-1998	FUJIKIN INCORPORATED		

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SignatureDate
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Application Number	10/605,266
Filing Date	September 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Douglas Nordstrom
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	22188-06640

Sheet	4	of	4
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

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